

## SUPPLEMENT 18-B

# GOVERNMENT ROLE ON IPTs

*The following list was developed by the Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAAV) program to inform its government personnel of their role on contractor/government integrated teams. It addresses government responsibilities and the realities imposed by contractual and legal constraints. Though it is specific to the AAAV case, it can be used as guidance in the development of team planning for other programs.*

1. The IPTs are contractor-run entities. We do not lead or manage the IPTs.
2. We serve as “customer” representatives on the IPTs. We are there to **REDUCE THE CYCLE TIME** of contractor-Government (customer) communication. In other words, we facilitate contractor personnel getting Government input faster. Government IPT members also enable us to provide the contractor IPT Status and issue information up the Government chain on a daily basis (instead of monthly or quarterly).
3. **WE DO NOT DO** the contractor’s IPT WORK, or any portion of their work or tasks. The contractor has been contracted to perform the tasks outlined in the contract SOW; their personnel and their subcontractors’ personnel will perform those tasks, not us. But Government IPT members will be an active part of the deliberations during the development of, and participate in “on-the-fly” reviews of deliverables called out in CDRLs.
4. When asked by contractor personnel for the Government’s position or interpretation, Government IPT members can offer their personal opinion, as an IPT member, or offer expert opinion; you can provide guidance as to our “customer” opinion and what might be acceptable to the Government but you can only offer the “Government” position for items that have been agreed to by you and your Supervisor. **IT IS UP TO YOUR SUPERVISORS TO EMPOWER EACH OF YOU TO AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF AUTHORITY.** It is expected that this will start at a minimal level of authority and be expanded as each individual’s IPT experience and program knowledge grows. However... (see items 5 and 6).
5. Government IPT members **CAN NOT** authorize any changes or deviations to/from the contract SOW or Specifications. Government IPT members can participate in the deliberations and discussions that would result in the suggestion of such changes. If/When an IPT concludes that the best course of action is not in accordance with the contract, and a contract change is in order, then the contractor must submit a Contract Change Request (CCR) through normal channels.
6. Government IPT members **CAN NOT** authorize the contractor to perform work that is in addition to the SOW/contract requirements. The contractor IPTs can perform work that is not specifically required by the contract, at their discretion (provided they stay within the resources as identified in the Team Operating Contract (TOC)).
7. Government IPT member participation in contractor IPT activities **IS NOT** Government consent that the work is approved by the Government or is chargeable to the contract. If an IPT is doing something questionable, identify it to your supervisor or Program Management Team (PMT) member.

8. Government members of IPTs do not approve or disapprove of IPT decisions, plans, or reports. You offer your opinion in their development, you vote as a member, and you coordinate issues with your Supervisor and bring the “Government” opinion (in the form of your opinion) back to the IPT, with the goal of improving the quality of the products; you don’t have veto power.
9. Government IPT members are still subject to all the Government laws and regulations regarding “directed changes,” ethics, and conduct. Your primary function is to perform those functions that are best done by Government employees, such as:
  - Conveying to contractor personnel your knowledge/expertise on Marine Corps operations and maintenance techniques;
  - Interfacing with all other Government organizations (e.g., T&E);
  - Control/facilitization of government furnished equipment and materials (GFE and GFM);
  - Ensuring timely payment of submitted vouchers; and
  - Full participation in Risk Management.